

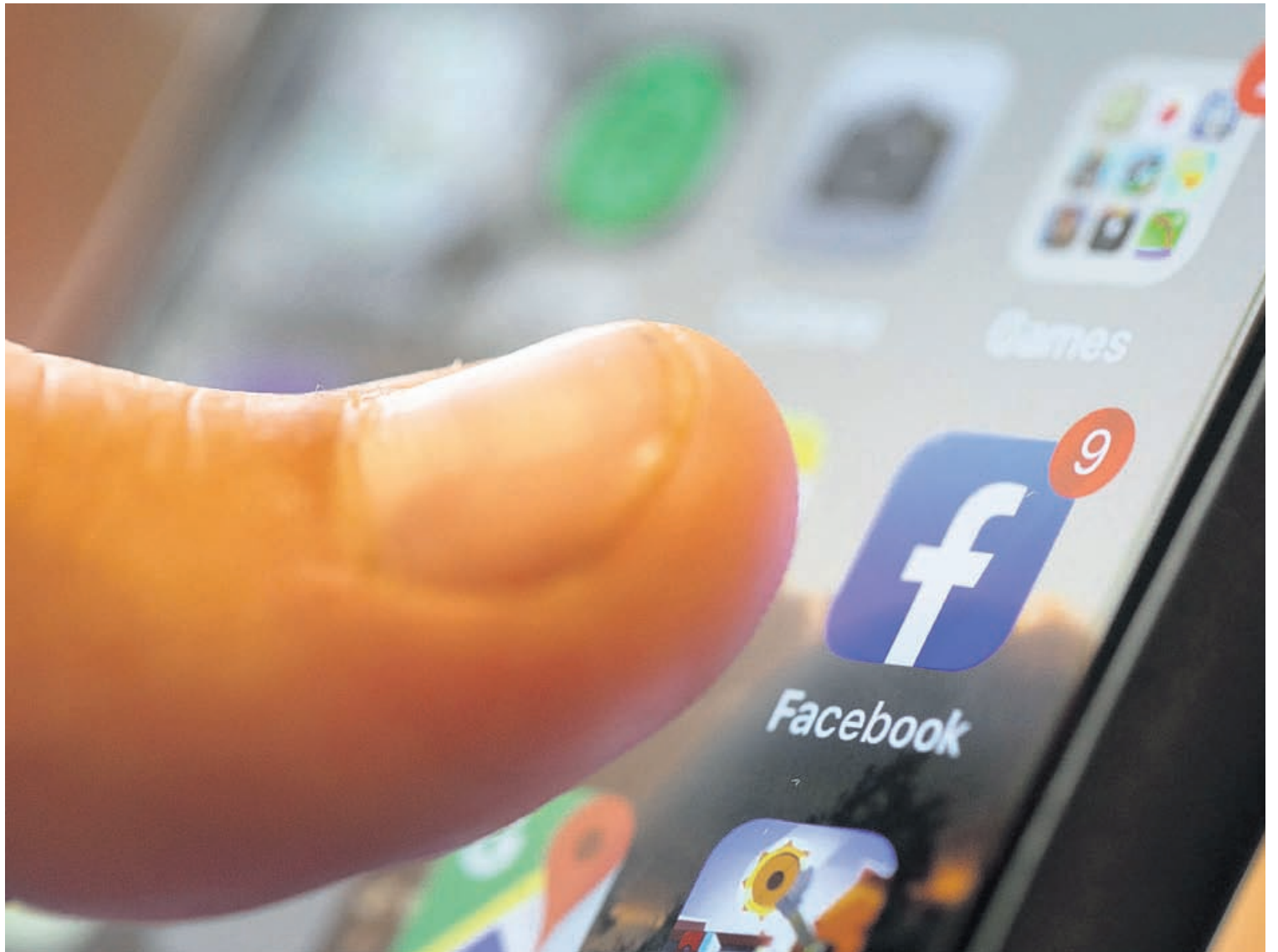


Aruba's ONLY English newspaper

Iran is accelerating cyber activity that appears meant to influence the U.S. election, Microsoft says

By ALI SWENSON
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Iran is accelerating online activity that appears intended to influence the U.S. election, in one case targeting a presidential campaign with an email phishing attack, Microsoft said Friday. Iranian actors also have spent recent months creating fake news sites and impersonating activists, laying the groundwork to stoke division and potentially sway American voters this fall, especially in swing states, the technology giant found. The findings in Microsoft's newest threat intelligence report show how Iran, which has been active in recent U.S. elections, is evolving its tactics for another election that's likely to have global implications. The report goes a step beyond anything U.S. intelligence officials have disclosed, giving specific examples of Iranian groups and the actions they have taken so far.



Continued on Page 2

An iPhone displays the Facebook app, Aug. 11, 2019, in New Orleans.

Associated Press

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT 7 DAYS A WEEK

SUNDAY:	MONDAY:	TUESDAY:	WEDNESDAY:	THURSDAY:	FRIDAY:	SATURDAY:
MARRYBELL MADURO SINGER 6:30 - 8:30pm	ANGELA FLORES VIOLINIST 6:30 - 8:30pm	JEAN PAUL SAXOPHONIST 6:30 - 8:30pm	EDDIE KROON SINGER 4:00 - 6:00pm MAILLEYN ALVARADO VIOLINIST 6:30 - 8:30pm KARAOKE 9:00 - 11:00pm	MARRYBELL MADURO SINGER 6:30 - 8:30pm	RICKY THOMAS GUITARIST 7:00 - 9:00pm	EDDIE KROON SINGER 4:00 - 6:00pm ANGELA FLORES VIOLINIST 6:30 - 8:30pm

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Iran is accelerating cyber activity that appears meant to influence the U.S. election, Microsoft says

Continued from Front

Iran's United Nations mission denied it had plans to interfere or launch cyberattacks in the U.S. presidential election.

The report doesn't specify Iran's intentions besides sowing chaos in the United States, though U.S. officials have previously hinted that Iran particularly opposes former President Donald Trump. U.S. officials also have expressed alarm about Tehran's efforts to seek retaliation for a 2020 strike on an Iranian general that was ordered by Trump. This week, the Justice Department unsealed criminal charges against a Pakistani man with ties to Iran who's alleged to have hatched assassination plots targeting multiple officials, potentially including Trump.

The report also reveals how Russia and China are exploiting U.S. political polarization to advance their own divisive messaging in a consequential election year.

Microsoft's report identified four examples of recent Iranian activity that the company expects to increase as November's election draws closer.

First, a group linked to Iran's Revolutionary Guard in June targeted a high-ranking U.S. presidential campaign offi-



Deputy Attorney General Lisa Monaco testifies during a hearing, April 19, 2023, on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Associated Press

cial with a phishing email, a form of cyberattack often used to gather sensitive information, according to the report, which didn't identify which campaign was targeted. The group concealed the email's origins by sending it from the hacked email account of a former senior adviser, Microsoft said.

Days later, the Iranian group tried to log into an account that belonged to a former presidential candidate, but wasn't successful, Microsoft's report said. The company notified those who were targeted.

In a separate example, an

Iranian group has been creating websites that pose as U.S.-based news sites targeted to voters on opposite sides of the political spectrum, the report said.

One fake news site that lends itself to a left-leaning audience insults Trump by calling him "raving mad" and suggests he uses drugs, the report said. Another site meant to appeal to Republican readers centers on LGBTQ issues and gender-affirming surgery. A third example Microsoft cited found that Iranian groups are impersonating U.S. activists, potentially laying the groundwork for influence

operations closer to the election.

Finally, another Iranian group in May compromised an account owned by a government employee in a swing state, the report said. It was unclear whether that cyberattack was related to election interference efforts.

Iran's U.N. mission sent The Associated Press an emailed statement: "Iran has been the victim of numerous offensive cyber operations targeting its infrastructure, public service centers, and industries. Iran's cyber capabilities are defensive and proportionate to the threats

it faces. Iran has neither the intention nor plans to launch cyber attacks. The U.S. presidential election is an internal matter in which Iran does not interfere."

The Microsoft report said that as Iran escalates its cyber influence, Russia-linked actors also have pivoted their influence campaigns to focus on the U.S. election, while actors linked to the Chinese Communist Party have taken advantage of pro-Palestinian university protests and other current events in the U.S. to try to raise U.S. political tensions. Microsoft said it has continued to monitor how foreign foes are using generative AI technology. The increasingly cheap and easy-to-access tools can generate lifelike fake images, photos and videos in seconds, prompting concern among some experts that they will be weaponized to mislead voters this election cycle.

While many countries have experimented with AI in their influence operations, the company said, those efforts haven't had much impact so far. The report said as a result, some actors have "pivoted back to techniques that have proven effective in the past — simple digital manipulations, mischaracterization of content, and use of trusted labels or logos atop false information." □



Palestinians flee the Khan Younis area of the Gaza Strip, following Israeli military evacuation orders, saying its forces will soon operate there, Thursday, Aug. 8, 2024.

Associated Press

By **ELLEN KNICKMEYER**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Leaders of the United States, Egypt

and Qatar jointly demanded Israel and Hamas return to stalled talks on the war in Gaza next week, saying that

U.S. and other frustrated mediators call on Israel, Hamas to resume Gaza talks, saying, 'no excuses'

"only the details" of carrying out a cease-fire and hostage release remain to be negotiated. "There is no further time to waste, nor excuses from any party for further delay," they said in a joint statement. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office said Thursday, "Pursuant to the proposal by the U.S. and the mediators, Israel will — on 15 August — send the negotiations team to a place to be determined in order to finalize the details of the implementation of the framework agreement."

President Joe Biden, Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi and Qatari Emir Tamim al-Thani, mediators in indirect negotiations to end 10 months of devastating war in Gaza, set the talks for Aug. 15, to take place in either Doha, Qatar, or Cairo.

A senior U.S. official, speaking to reporters on condition of anonymity to discuss the push by mediators, said only four or five areas of disagreement remained to be resolved between the two opponents.

The official cited the timing of a planned swap of Palestinian detainees held by Israel, and hostages held by Hamas, as an example.

Egypt, the U.S. and Qatar said they have a proposal ready to present at next week's talks to resolve the remaining issues. Critics of Netanyahu accuse him of slow-rolling talks to end the war in Gaza, which began Oct. 7 when Hamas-led militants killed about 1,200 people in Israel. Israel's offensive in Gaza since then has killed nearly 40,000 people. □

Body camera footage shows local police anger at Secret Service after Trump assassination attempt

By ALANNA DURKIN RICHER and CLAUDIA LAUER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — In the chaotic aftermath of the attempted assassination of Donald Trump at a Pennsylvania rally last month, a local police officer told a fellow officer he had warned the Secret Service days earlier that the building where the 20-year-old gunman opened fire needed to be secured.

"I (expletive) told them they needed to post guys (expletive) over here," the officer said in police body camera footage released by the Butler Township Police Department. "I told them that (expletive) Tuesday."

When another officer asked who he told that to, he responded: "the Secret Service."

Police body camera videos, released in response to a public records request, show frustration among local law enforcement at how Thomas Matthew Crooks — whom police had flagged as suspicious before the shooting — managed to slip away from their view, scale a roof and open fire with an AR-style rifle at the former president and Republican presidential nominee. They also show police expressing confusion and anger about why no law enforcement had been stationed on the



Police officers stand at a road leading to the site of the Trump rally, where access is closed, as investigations into the assassination attempt on former President Donald Trump continue, in Butler, Pa., July 14, 2024.

roof.

"I wasn't even concerned about it because I thought someone was on the roof," one officer says. He asked how "the hell" they could have lost sight of Crooks after spotting him acting suspiciously if law enforcement had been on top of the building. The other officer responded: "They were inside."

Trump was struck in the ear but avoided serious injury. One spectator was killed and two others were injured.

Several investigations are underway into the secu-

urity failures that led to the shooting. Acting Secret Service Director Ronald Rowe Jr., who took over after the resignation of former chief Kimberly Cheatle, has said he "cannot defend why that roof was not better secured." The Secret Service controls the area after people pass through metal detectors, while local law enforcement is supposed to handle outside the perimeter. Rowe told lawmakers last month that Secret Service had "assumed that the state and locals had it" covered.

A Secret Service spokesper-

son said Friday the agency is reviewing the body camera footage.

"The U.S. Secret Service appreciates our local law enforcement partners, who acted courageously as they worked to locate the shooter that day," spokesperson Anthony Guglielmi said in an email, "The attempted assassination of former President Donald Trump was a U.S. Secret Service failure, and we are reviewing and updating our protective policies and procedures in order to ensure a tragedy like this never occurs again."

Two officers from local county sniper teams were inside the complex of buildings and spotted Crooks acting strangely. One of them ran outside to look for Crooks while the other remained in the building on the second floor, according to Butler County District Attorney Richard Goldinger. But neither officer could see Crooks on top of the adjacent building from their second-floor position, Goldinger has said.

Another video shows officers frantically looking for Crooks in the moments before the shooting. The video shows one officer help another climb up to the roof to investigate, spotting Crooks before dropping down and running to his car to grab his gun. There is no audio in the video until the officer is back at his car, grabbing his weapon, so it's unclear what he said after seeing Crooks on the roof. It was not immediately clear whether the sound was not recorded, or if the audio had been redacted by police.

The acting Secret Service director has said local law enforcement did not alert his agency before the shooting that an armed person had been spotted on a nearby roof.

After the shooting, officers are seen in one video climbing onto the roof, where Crooks lay dead. □

COVID-19 falls to No. 10 cause of death in U.S.

By The Associated Press

U.S. death rates fell last year for all age groups compared with 2022, federal health officials said Thursday.

Here's what the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data showed:

COVID-19 fell to the 10th leading cause of death. Early in the pandemic, the coronavirus was the nation's third leading cause of death. It dropped to fourth in 2022.

The leading causes of death were heart disease, cancer and a category of injuries that includes gun deaths and drug overdoses.

There were nearly 3.1 million deaths last year in the U.S., down from 3.3 million in 2022. For many years before the pandemic, deaths usually rose year-to-year, in part because the nation's population grows. COVID-19 accelerated that trend, making 2021 the

deadliest in U.S. history at 3.4 million deaths. But the number dropped in 2022 as the pandemic ebbed.

Death rates by race and ethnicity were down for all groups, though disparities remain. Because certain populations are younger or older than others, scientists use age-adjusted death rates to compare groups. These age-adjusted death rates were lowest among multiracial people and Asian Americans, and high-



The sun rises on St. Mary's Cemetery, April 19, 2019, in McKees Rocks, Pa.

Associated Press

est among Black people. The CDC provisional data is based on death certificate

information collected so far. Final data is expected later this year. □

Record-breaking wildfires scorch more than 1.4 million acres in Oregon, authorities say

By **CLAIRE RUSH**
Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Wildfires in Oregon have burned more acres of land this year than any since reliable records began, authorities said, with the region's peak fire season in mid-August still on the horizon.

Blazes have scorched more than 1.4 million acres, or nearly 2,200 square miles (5,700 square kilometers), said Northwest Interagency Coordination Center spokesperson Carol Connolly. That's the most since reliable records began in 1992, she said, and surpasses the previous record set in 2020, when deadly fires tore across the state.

Connolly said 71 large fires have burned the vast majority of Oregon land so far this year. Large fires are defined as those that burn more than 100 acres of timber or more than 300 acres of grass or brush.



This photo provided by the Oregon Department of Transportation shows the Durkee Fire burning in eastern Ore., Monday, July 22, 2024.

Associated Press

Thirty-two homes in the state have been lost to the fires, she said. The blazes have been fueled by high temperatures, dry conditions and low humidity.

Oregon's largest blaze is

the Durkee Fire in eastern Oregon. It has scorched more than 459 square miles (1,200 square kilometers) but was at least 95% contained as of Friday, according to authorities. At one

point it was the largest fire in the country.

California's Park Fire has since become the biggest blaze in the U.S., scorching more than 660 square miles (1,709 square kilome-

ters) and destroying more than 600 structures. A local man was arrested after authorities alleged he started the fire by pushing a burning car into a gully in a wilderness park outside the Sacramento Valley city of Chico. The Oregon fires have largely torched rural and mountain areas and prompted evacuation notices across the state. On Friday, a fire near the Portland suburb of Oregon City led authorities to close part of a state highway and issue Level 3 "go now" evacuation orders along part of the route. The most destructive fires on recent record in Oregon were in 2020. Blazes over Labor Day weekend that year were among the worst natural disasters in the state's history, killing nine people, burning more than 1,875 square miles (4,856 square kilometers) and destroying thousands of homes and other structures. □

Prompted by mass shooting, 72-hour wait period and other new gun laws go into effect in Maine

By **DAVID SHARP**
Associated Press

PORTLAND, Maine (AP) — With eleventh hour guidance from the state, Maine gun retailers on Friday began requiring a three-day wait period for gun purchases under one of the new safety laws adopted following the state's deadliest mass shooting.

Maine joins a dozen other states with similar laws, requiring that buyers wait 72 hours to complete a purchase and retrieve a weapon. The law is among several gun-related bills adopted after an Army reservist killed 18 people and injured 13 others on Oct. 25, 2023, in Lewiston.

The new law wouldn't have

prevented the tragedy the gunman bought his guns legally months earlier but Friday's milestone was celebrated by gun safety advocates who believe it will prevent gun deaths by providing a cooling-off period for people intent on buying a gun to do harm to others or themselves.

"These new laws will certainly save lives, both here in Maine and throughout the nation," said Nacole Palmer, executive director of the Maine Gun Safety Coalition.

Gun store owners complained about the guidance, released just Tuesday, and the loss of sales to out-of-state visitors during Maine's busy summer tourism season. They also said the waiting period will take a toll on gun shows.

In Kittery, Dave Labbe from the Kittery Trading Post said there would be close to zero completed rifle sales

at its main store beginning Friday as customers subject to the waiting period will have to return to pick up their firearms. He is worried shoppers won't buy guns because the waiting period requires them to make an extra trip to the store.

"You can imagine how I feel," he said.

Unlike other Maine dealers, Kittery Trading Post's out-of-state buyers of rifles and shotguns have the option to move those sales to its New Hampshire facility to complete a same-day purchase.

But that increases business costs and inconveniences customers. In some cases, the customer may prefer to ship the firearm to a dealer in their home state, Labbe said.

Some retailers claimed the guidance was late, and vague.

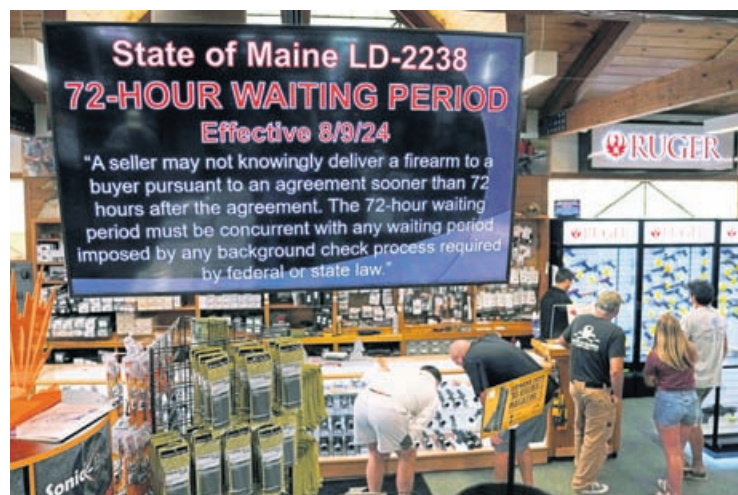
"It's as clear as mud," said Laura Whitcomb from Gun

Owners of Maine. She noted gray areas include the legal definition for the "agreement" that must be reached to trigger the waiting period.

Critics of the law have vowed to sue. They contend it harms only law-abiding citizens while doing nothing to stop criminals from accessing weapons illegally. They also contend people who intend to harm themselves will simply find another way to do so if they are unable to purchase a gun on the spot.

The waiting period law went into effect without the signature of Democratic Gov. Janet Mills. It was one of a series of bills adopted after the mass killings at a bowling alley and a bar and grill in Lewiston.

Mills told lawmakers during her State of the State address that doing nothing was not an option after the tragedy. □



Customers shop in the firearms section at the Kittery Trading Post, Friday, Aug. 9, 2024, in Kittery, Maine.

Associated Press

The U.N. is moving to fight cybercrime but privacy groups say human rights will be violated

By **MICHAEL WEISSENSTEIN**
Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — A global deal on the criminal use of computer technology is moving ahead despite worries it will let governments around the world violate human rights by probing electronic communications and bypassing privacy safeguards. Nearly 200 nations approved the United Nations Convention against Cybercrime on Thursday afternoon at a special committee meeting that capped months of complicated negotiations. The treaty expected to win General Assembly approval within months creates a framework for nations to cooperate against internet-related crimes including the illegal access and interception of computer information; electronic eavesdropping and online child sex abuse. Like outer space or even some parts of the deep sea, cyberspace is a relatively new area for regular



The symbol of the United Nations is displayed on the main gate outside UN headquarters, Feb. 24, 2022, in New York.

human activity and many governments and businesses are rushing to keep up. The convention expected at the General Assembly later this year began with a Russian initiative several years ago and critics said they can see those Rus-

sian origins in much of the treaty's oppression-friendly language. Libertarians and business groups who objected to the treaty helped pack the conference room where it was negotiated. Many cited examples of probable downsides like

the case against Rappler, an online Philippine news outlet that angered former President Rodrigo Duterte by reporting critically on his deadly crackdown on illegal drugs and alarming human rights record. Founded by 2021 Nobel Peace Prize

Associated Press

co-winner Maria Ressa, libertarians said the site is the type that will become vulnerable around the world thanks to the new treaty but advocates including the Biden administration said the deal reflects the interests of the U.S. and its allies.

It balances privacy concerns with the need for every country to pursue criminal activity around the world, the Biden administration said.

"We see this convention as a means to expand global law-enforcement cooperation," a senior U.S. administration official familiar with the negotiation process told reporters on Friday. The official said that the U.N. negotiation process had allowed essential improvements in the treaty.

"We sought to find to achieve a balance, and we felt that we got to a balance between authorities for law enforcement and human rights," the official said. □

Japan's Kishida cancels Asia trip after scientists urge preparations for a possible 'megaquake'

By **MARI YAMAGUCHI**
Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida canceled a planned trip to Central Asia on Friday to lead the government's response after scientists urged people to prepare for a possible "megaquake" off the country's southern coast. The Japan Meteorological Agency issued its first ever "megaquake advisory" on Thursday warning of a possible future major earthquake triggered by the underwater Nankai Trough, after a magnitude 7.1 quake shook just off the eastern coast of Kyushu island earlier in the day. The trough, which runs along Japan's Pacific coast, was the source of past devastating earthquakes. Seismologists at the agency held an emergency meet-

ing after Thursday's quake to analyze whether it had affected the nearby trough and reassessed the risk of a major quake. They urged people to observe high caution levels for about a week.

Thursday's quake injured 16 people, most of them slightly, and caused no major damage. Tsunami advisories were issued for several areas but lifted hours later. Kishida announced that he had canceled his planned Aug. 9-12 trip to Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Mongolia as a result of the advisory.

"I have decided to stay in the country at least for about a week to make sure that government measures and communication are fully in place," Kishida said. The Fire and Disaster Management Agency instructed 707 municipalities des-

ignated as at risk from a Nankai Trough quake to review their disaster response measures and evacuation plans.

The meteorological agency's first "megaquake advisory" sparked public unease and prompted local government offices, rail operators and other agencies to begin introducing precautionary measures, affecting holiday travelers during the summer "Obon" holiday week.

Some municipalities even closed parks or cancelled events for the coming week, although officials and experts stressed that there was no need to shut down any normal activity. They said the advisory was aimed only at raising awareness of a increased probability over the long term, and that it was not for any specific timeframe or

location. Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshimasa Hayashi called on people to carry on daily social and economic activities such as traveling. Still, towns such as Higashi Osaka called on residents not to engage in "unnec-

essary and non-urgent" travel in case of a major quake. Other municipalities opened shelters, called on residents to stock up emergency food and water and to discuss evacuation plans among family members. □



A house is seen collapsed in Oosaki town, Kagoshima prefecture, southern Japan Friday, Aug. 9, 2024, following Thursday's powerful earthquake.

Associated Press

International Criminal Court judges mulling arrest warrants consider legal arguments on jurisdiction

By **MIKE CORDER**

Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands

(AP) — Dozens of countries, academics and rights groups have filed legal arguments either rejecting or supporting the International Criminal Court's power to issue arrest warrants in its investigation into the war in Gaza and the Oct. 7 attacks by Hamas in Israel. The submissions filed this week come as a panel of judges considers a request by the court's chief prosecutor for warrants against Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Defense Minister Yoav Gallant, and the recently promoted leaders of Hamas.

The court's prosecutor, Karim Khan, sought warrants in May, accusing Netanyahu, Gallant, and three Hamas leaders — Yahya Sinwar, Mohammed Deif and Ismail Haniyeh of war crimes and crimes against humanity in the Gaza Strip and Israel. Both Haniyeh and Deif have since been killed. Sinwar, Hamas' top official in Gaza who masterminded the Oct. 7 attacks, was



A view of the International Criminal Court in The Hague, Netherlands, June 26, 2024.

Associated Press

subsequently named the group's new leader. Israel strongly rejects the court's request for warrants for its leaders and insists it adheres to international law in the devastating conflict in Gaza that was triggered by the Hamas-led attacks.

Netanyahu called the request for warrants "a com-

plete distortion of reality."

The slew of written submissions is likely to delay a decision by a panel of judges on whether to issue warrants and comes despite a 2021 ruling that the court has jurisdiction over territories occupied by Israel in the 1967 Mideast war.

International law expert Owiso Owiso, said that he

believes the issue "was already determined authoritatively in 2021 and ought not to have been resurrected."

"So really, this is merely an academic exercise at best, and one massive waste of time and resources at worst," he added.

Most of the legal arguments focus largely on the

issue of whether the court's power to issue warrants for Israeli leaders is overruled by a provision of the 1993 Oslo Accords peace deal. As part of the deal, the Palestinians agreed that they don't have criminal jurisdiction over Israeli nationals.

The accords, negotiated secretly in Norway, were meant to pave the way to a two-state solution between Israel and the Palestinians. The deal created the Palestinian Authority and set up self-rule areas in the Palestinian territories. The Palestinians seek the West Bank, east Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip areas captured by Israel in 1967 for a future state.

Among more than 50 filings, the opinions are divided over whether, under the terms of the deal, Palestinians can delegate the power to issue arrest warrants to the court.

Israel didn't file written arguments, but its staunch ally, the United States, did, arguing that the Oslo Accords "preserved in Israel exclusive jurisdiction over acts committed by Israeli nationals. □

Amanda Knox wasn't coerced but 'freely' accused a bar owner in roommate's murder, Italian court says

By **COLLEEN BARRY**

Associated Press

MILAN (AP) —

Amanda Knox's hand-written memo at the center of her latest retrial for falsely accusing

a Congolese bar owner in the 2007 murder of her British housemate contained enough elements for her to be reconvicted of slander in June, an Italian appeals

court said Friday.

The slander conviction is the only one remaining against her long after Knox was definitively exonerated of the murder, and she traveled to Florence in June hoping to remove the last legal stain against her only to be convicted again.

Knox's hand-written document was the only piece of evidence the Florence appellate court was to examine after Italy's supreme court threw out two signed statements falsely accusing Patrick Lumumba of murdering Meredith Kercher in the Italian university town of Perugia.

The highest court's ruling followed a finding by a European court that Knox's rights had been violated during a long night of ques-

tioning.

"The manuscript was written spontaneously and freely, as the accused confirmed in the course of her examination," the Florence appellate court said in a 35-page document that gave its reasonings for the June conviction.

The court said that the memo contained "the objective details of the crime of slander."

Knox's hand-written document was an attempt to walk back the accusations against Lumumba.

"I'm very doubtful of the verity of the statements because they were made under the pressure of stress, shock and extreme exhaustion," Knox wrote.

She wrote that she had been pressured and told

she faced 30 years in prison while being questioned overnight and went on to repeat elements of her accusation against Lumumba, underlining, "these things seem unreal to me, like a dream, and I am unsure if they are real things that happened, or are just dreams my mind has made to try to answer the questions in my head and the questions I am being asked."

The European Court of Human Rights in 2019 ordered Italy to pay Knox damages for failing to provide a lawyer or an independent interpreter during the extended night of questioning during which she signed the two statements fingering Lumumba. □



Amanda Knox arrives flanked by her husband, Christopher Robinson, right, and her lawyer, Luca Luparia Donati, left, at a court in Florence, Italy, June 5, 2024.

Associated Press

Operations at Queen Beatrix International Airport halted due to issue with air conditioning system

Yesterday morning, operations at Queen Beatrix International Airport were seriously affected when an issue with the air conditioning system was discovered. Through their Facebook page, the airport announced that due to unforeseen technical problems with their air conditioning system, they had to temporarily halt all passengers processing.

"For safety and comfort reasons, we ask all passengers who have not yet arrived at the airport to refrain from coming at this time. We are closely monitoring the situation and will provide updates as more information becomes available," the post continued.

The first update arrived at 10:40 a.m., indicating that the airport would be closed for approximately three hours due to the technical issue with their air conditioning system. This closure affected all flights, both departing from and arriving to Aruba.

By 1:05 p.m., the second update on their Facebook page indicated that the technical problem would persist for another six hours, and the airport would remain



closed until 7:30 p.m.

The third update was issued at 2:15 p.m., in which the airport explained that a rupture in the main chiller pipeline was the cause of the significant issue. The estimated time to fix the problem was stated to be five to seven hours.

This caused a wave of reactions from tourists who expressed their frustration and dissatisfaction. Many questioned what would be done regarding their ac-

commodations in the event of canceled flights and why all airport operations needed to stop for this issue.

Many found this inconvenience unacceptable and questioned why there wasn't an emergency plan in place for such occurrences.

The last update the airport published on their Facebook page indicated that the airport would remain closed until 7:00 a.m. today.

During a press conference

yesterday afternoon, they stated that the airport would cover the costs of lodging and new flight reservations for the passengers through each airline. They also provided more details regarding the decision to close the airport.

According to the spokesperson, the airport decided to close its doors for the rest of the day mainly due to the lack of sufficient accommodations and safety for passengers. They emphasized that the arrival of more pas-

sengers from abroad would put too much pressure on hotels and Airbnb, which already had to accommodate around 4,000 unexpected guests stranded in Aruba. They also explained that the technical failure that caused the major operational disruption. As mentioned, the underground pipeline of the main chiller broke, causing the terminals to overheat and the airport's Building Management System (BMS) to start giving errors. As a result, this posed a safety issue for the passengers, as the floors could become slippery due to condensation.

The airport emphasized that due to the disruption, only eight to nine flights managed to depart, leaving approximately 30 remaining flights delayed. As a result, today, the airport will be even busier, accommodating the 4,000 passengers who missed their flights, in addition to approximately 5,000 more scheduled to fly today.

This is not the first time this year that the airport has encountered this type of problem. In January, there was a similar issue that drastically affected the airport's operations. □

Papiamentu words and phrases you may want to know!

(Oranjestad)—Aruba is a melting pot of different nationalities, cultures and languages. Primarily for this reason, the average Aruban can understand and speak Dutch, English and Spanish relatively well. However, as much as we pride ourselves in being able to communicate with almost everyone, we cherish our native tongue Papiamentu above all else. Want to learn some common words in our language? Here are a few basic words and phrases that can get you a hat tip from an Aruban.

When you arrive at the airport in Aruba, one of the first words in Papiamentu you may encounter is "Bon bini." Bon bini in Papiamentu means welcome, and is probably the most famous Papiamentu word for tourists.

Hi! Bye!

To be fair, there is no unique way to say "hello" in Papiamentu. At least, not officially. We often just use the

English "hello" or "hey", or Dutch "hallo" to greet someone. We do however, always follow it up with "con bay?" or "con ta?" Con bay is a shortened version of "con ta bay?", which essentially means "how are you?"

The word "con" in Papiamentu means "how?" and is pronounced with a rounder "o" sounds, like in the English word "cone". "Ta bay" refers to how you are doing.

When we say goodbye, we use the word "ayo" (not like the Ayo Rock Formation, but also...kinda?). We may also use "te oro", which means "see you later".

Greetings during the day

Most, if not all, languages have different ways to greet according to the time of day, and Papiamentu is no different. Since Papiamentu is heavily influenced from Portuguese and Spanish, some of these phrases may look very familiar.

1. Bon dia is used in the morning, up to about noon. Bon dia essentially means good morning. The word "bon" means "good", and while "dia" does not directly mean "morning" in English, it is used often to refer to the morning time.
2. Bon tardi. In the afternoon to early evening hours, we use "bon tardi" to greet people, which means "good afternoon". "Tardi" actually comes from the word "atardi", which directly translates to "afternoon". However, the shortened "tardi" is used to keep the rhythm on the phrase. And the same could be said for our last greeting of the day.
3. Bon nochi. You guessed it, "bon nochi" means "good night". Just like "tardi", "nochi" is actually the shortened version of the word "anochi".

Yes...no...maybe?

The affirmative and negative expression is very simple in Papiamentu. Just like Spanish, our yeses are "si" and our no's are "no". Pretty easy right? If you want to gain some extra points from younger locals, you can also say "se", which is a more casual affirmative used mostly by the younger generation. However, do note: some older generations may find this improper and not respectful, so keep that in mind.

Thanks man...

Lastly, a word that we can also say more often is "danki", which means literally "thank you". "Danki" is derived from the Dutch word "bedankt". Though we don't really have a translation for "I appreciate it" in English, we do use "masha danki" to convey the message. "Masha" means "a lot" or "very", so "masha danki" means "thank you very much". □

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Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitors at Costa Linda Beach Resort!

The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure of recognizing Goodwill Ambassadors of Aruba. The honorees were respectively honored with a certificate for their years of visits, loyalty, and love for the island of Aruba.

The honorary certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

The three levels of honor are as follows:

Distinguished Visitor (10>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Goodwill Ambassador (20>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Emerald Ambassador (35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)



The honorees were:

Goodwill Ambassadors
Mr. Raymond & Mrs. Marianna Provancher from
Middlebury Connecticut, United States.

Ms. Marouska Heyliger representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of Costa Linda Beach resort bestowed the certificate upon the honorees, presented them with gifts, and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination, as their home away from home.

The top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by the honorees were:

- Aruba's people.
- Aruba's beach.
- Aruba's restaurants.
- Aruba is very safe.
- "Great choices of casinos"

On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the honorees for their continued visits to the "One Happy Island".

Lessons from our elders: Plants and fruits for medicinal use

(Oranjestad)—Though western medicine is now widely used for common illnesses and to keep our bodies healthy and happy, it is still very common in every household in Aruba (and around the world) to have staple home remedies that is passed on through generations. Here are some tips that our elders have passed on to us over the years.

Pineapple

Pineapple has more uses than topping it on your Christmas ham. According to elders, the skin of a pineapple is great to use to refresh your body. Clean the skin thoroughly and make tea or warapa* with it. It is said that this tea can also be drank after an operation on the ovaries or uterus. This gets rid of irritation and inflammation.

When the fruit is unripe and green, this can be used to stimulate menstruation flow in women. This

also stimulates the passing kidney stones. When ripe, the fruit can be used for poisoning in the gut and can help treat rheumatic diseases, like arthritis.

However, breastfeeding women who cannot produce much milk are advised not to consume too pineapple, and people with acid reflux are recommended to not consume any pineapple at all.

Arrowroot

Arrowroot is native to tropical



America and can be sold as a powder or whole. It is said that you can take arrowroot powder and make a "shalup" (porridge) for stomach pain or when you're feeling weak. You can make it with milk too, but it is advised to best use just water. You can also add prunes for a bit of sweetness. Arrowroot shalup is also good to treat an unhealthy gut or for diarrhea.

To make arrowroot shalup, boil a bit of water and add one tablespoon of arrowroot powder and stir continuously until you reach porridge consistency. If you make a shalup with milk, add a pinch of salt. Raw arrowroot powder can be used to powder babies.

Eggplant/Aubergine

Eggplants, or aubergines, are easy to find in supermarkets around the world and can be grown all year round on the island. Related to potato and tomato, eggplants are



good to calm nerves. It can also be used to lower blood pressure, by steeping its leaves in boiled water and drinking it. You can also make eggplant juice to help purify your blood. However, do make sure to drink slowly; let it mix with your spit and then swallow.

Eggplant kataplan* can also be used to treat skin tumors, abscesses and hemorrhoids. Eggplant kataplan can also be used externally to treat arthritis.

*warapa: term referring to a water and sugar solution, a.k.a simple syrup.

*kataplan: porridge-like mixture used externally for wounds or parts of the body that are painful or swollen.

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Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitors at Aruba Beach Club!

The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure of recognizing Distinguished Visitors of Aruba. The honorees were respectively honored with a certificate for their years of visits, loyalty, and love for the island of Aruba.

The honorary certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

The three levels of honor are as follows:

Distinguished Visitor (10>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Goodwill Ambassador (20>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Emerald Ambassador (35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

The honorees were:

Distinguished Visitors

Mr. Antonio Ifill Jr from Hamden Connecticut, United States.



Mr. Ellison Ifill from Hamden Connecticut, United States.

Mrs. Melba Mebane Ifill from Hamden Connecticut, United States.

Mr. Jorgino Willems representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of Aruba Beach Club bestowed the certificate upon the honorees, presented them with gifts, and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination, as their home away from home.

The top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by the honorees were:

- Aruba's people.
- Aruba's beaches.
- Aruba's weather.
- Aruba's restaurants.
- Aruba's Culture.
- "Family Tradition"
- "Meeting new and old friends"

On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the honorees for their continued visits to the "One Happy Island".

Dining in? Try making a local favorite How to make "pan bati"

(Oranjestad)—If you're ever up for an Aruban snack, try making another Aruban classic appetizer called Pan Bati. Similar to a pancake both in appearance and cooking, this is a super easy meal that adults and children will both enjoy. Here's how to make it!

Ingredients:

2 cups of all purpose flour
1 cup grams of fine cornmeal (we recommend the Harina PAN brand)
2 tbsp baking powder
1 1/3 cup of milk
1 pinch of salt
2 tbsp of granulated sugar
Oil for cooking

Instructions:

Add all the dry ingredients in a bowl first, and stir until well mixed. Then add the milk and beat until reached a pancake-like consistency. If more



moister is needed, add some water until reached desired consistency.

In a hot pan with oil, pour in enough batter to cover the bottom of the pan. Just like pancakes, flip the pan bati when one side turns golden brown. When your pan bati is ready, place on a plate and cover with a clean kitchen towel.

Traditionally, pan bati is cut in triangle pieces, and is often eaten as a side dish with soup, fried fish or stews. However, it is also casually enjoyed with some butter and cheese on top!

Aruba to me



ORANJESTAD — You are back or still enjoying your vacation?... we would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island.

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The stories of "Compa Nanzi"

(Oranjestad)—The most popular character you may hear about in the Caribbean is Anansi, known locally on Aruba as "Compa Nanzi". Local children grew up hearing the tales of the conniving spider, and his legacy forms part of the oral narrative tradition that is common in Aruba.

Although the stories are most popular in the Caribbean, "Compa Nanzi" is not entirely unknown globally, especially not in the West African region. Brought to the "new world" by enslaved Africans from Ghana, the historical thread of how Nanzi was introduced on Aruba follows the enslaved Africans in Curacao during the colonial era, which saw the biggest population of enslaved Africans in the Dutch Caribbean. The stories of Compa Nanzi were a sign of hope for freedom among the slaves, who passed around different stories involving the famous spider through word of mouth, due to not being able to express their native culture in the new world. These stories were a way to not only preserve their culture, but it acted as a medium for relief during the harsh treatment to which they were subjected to.

It wasn't until the end of the nineteenth century that the stories of Nanzi were written down in different languages. However, not all stories are completely alike in every country, as is the risk of oral story telling. However, one thing will always be dominant in Compa Nanzi's stories: his sneaky ways to

get what he wants!

How Nanzi fooled the king
One day Nanzi was taking a stroll near the castle of Shon Arei, the king. He had this sudden urge to walk in. He didn't think too much about it and committed to what he had in mind. It was a warm afternoon, and the castle personnel were taking their afternoon nap. Even the soldier guarding the castle door was fast asleep, snoring so loud that his beard bounced up and down on his chin. Nanzi just slipped past him, looked back for a moment then walk right on in. Nanzi stumbled upon the king's quarters. With all his excitement he sat in the king's throne, and put on his crown that was hanging on the side of the throne. It was very hot that day, and it wasn't long until Nanzi too fell asleep, right there on the king's throne. He was so deep in sleep and snoring so loud, that even when the king found him in his seat, Nanzi did not even notice. Shon Arei was flabbergasted by the sight of Nanzi on his throne, wearing his crown. How disrespectful! "Soldiers, get him!" he commanded. Nanzi was sound asleep, but when the soldiers picked him up, he jumped from fright. By then though, the soldier already had him in their hold.

"Put him in a sack, stitch it up and throw him in the ocean!" the king said furiously. Two soldiers immediately entered the chamber, took the crown off Nanzi's head and pushed him in a sack.

Nanzi was terrified; it looks like this



time he won't get away with his schemes. To get to the ocean, the soldier walked a long distance, and where beginning to feel very thirsty. Luckily they passed by a pub, and decided to have a nice cold beer. They set the sack with Nanzi in it outside and went to enjoy the refreshments. Nanzi was still trembling with fear in the sack. What is that he hears? A herd of sheep walking by?

"Compadre, listen here!" Nanzi screamed as loud as he could. The sheep herder got close to the sack. "What is this?"

"Man, there is something very beautiful in here that you can see. It's very rare and strange, but indeed, there is something so beautiful in here that you've never seen or will ever see," Nanzi told the herder.

The herder, very dumb, believed Nanzi's word. "Let me see!" he said.

"Well if you must insist," Nanzi said, "I'll let you take a look, but only for a quick second." The herder opened the sack, and Nanzi immediately jumped out. Before the herder could even take a look into the sack, Nanzi pushed him in it, and the herder fell head first in.

Nanzi didn't waste any time, and closed off the sack real tight. He then picked up the herder's hat and starting walking behind the traveling sheep as if nothing happened. After a little while, the soldiers headed back outside to continue their journey. As they picked up the sack, the poor herder start-

ed screaming to let him out, but the soldiers ignored him, thinking it was Nanzi.

Shon Arei went strolling a while later. He thought to himself: "This time Nanzi could not get away with his foolishness. He probably drowned in that sack ages ago." That is why, when he saw Nanzi walk behind the herd of sheep on the street, he was flabbergasted again. "Nanzi! Aren't you suppose to be at the bottom of the ocean floor?"

"I was, Your Majesty," Nanzi replied. But you know what, there is so many things to see down there in the sack! Like this herd of sheep. Seeing that they had no herder, I started walking behind them and gained their trust pretty quickly. At the bottom of the ocean there are so many wonderful things, like diamonds, and bags of gold. Chests of silver and other precious stones," Nanzi told the king.

"What is that you say?" the king was intrigued. "I want to see it too!"

The king immediately demanded to his soldiers to be put in a sack and be placed in the ocean. Naturally, Shon Arei died because of this. He was never found again. Nanzi followed the soldier back to the castle, where sat once again on the late king's throne and put his crown on. He took possession of all of Shon Arei's belongings, and lived the rest of his life as king. □

Story and pictures are from "Kon Nanzi a Nek Shon Arei (i otro kuentanan antiano di e araña sabi)" by Nilda Pinto.



Aruban legends: Frenchman's Pass

(Oranjestad)—If you ever plan on taking a group tour of the island, you may pass through the Frenchman's Pass in Balashi. The Frenchman's pass (known to locals as "Franse Pas") remains a mysterious—and spooky—road of which its legend is told from generation to generation.

The history of the Frenchman's pass—and how it got its name—dates back to the colonization era, when the French tried to colonize the island, but were met with an angry mob of indigenous settlers, refusing to give up their land. However, as the French were heavily equipped with fire arms, the indigenous settlers began to retreat, and hid away in nearby caves. The French colonizers tried to smoke them out of the caves, but the indigenous settlers ended up inhaling too much smoke and most died in those caves. From

then on, this passage was known as Frenchman's Pass, and there have been many accounts of spirits roaming the area of Spanish Lagoon. There are many ghost stories surrounding this area, but one of the most famous one involves a lonely hitchhiker, trying to find a ride back home in the dark rainy night.

Sometime after trying to hitchhike, the man saw a car approaching, appearing almost ghost-like in the rain. However, since he needed a ride real bad, he didn't think twice and jumped in. But to his horror, he noticed that there was no driver in the front. Paralyzed with fear, he didn't dare to get out, and the car started to move.

When approaching a sharp turn, the hitch hiker braced for impact, but just when he thought the car might drive straight off the road and



crash, he saw a hand appear out the window and turn the wheel. For the next few turns, the hand appeared again. After having had enough, the man decided to jump out and he ran to Santa Cruz.

Arriving at a nearby bar, he ordered a drink and began to tell everyone about his experience. Everyone grew

quiet, because they realized he wasn't some drunk messing around; he was telling the truth.

Sometime later, two men walked into the bar and one of them noticed the hitchhiker. He called out to his buddy and said: "Look, there's the idiot who sat in our car when we were pushing it!"

French man's pass is one of the few sites on the island that keeps the locals on their toes. While most ghost stories may not have real grounds—or some may even be a set up story for a joke, this pass contributes a lot to our culture of folkloric storytelling. □

Source: visitaruba.com

Aruba's neighborhoods; the meaning behind their names

Just like any other country, Aruba has unique and beautifully named neighborhoods that all form a part of its culture and development. Many of these names have a historical background and meaning that teaches us about the island and its rich culture every day.

With this series, we want to take you on a journey of discovery, where you'll learn not only the beautiful names but the history behind it that gives it life and meaning.

Ayo

Ajo, or Ayo, is a word with Arawak-Indian origin. A



(or Ha) is an Indo-Antillean generalizing word. If you were to change a part of the word "Ayo", namely 'Yo', to 'Yu' and make 'Ayu', it would mean "white."

However, as we now know,

the name of the neighborhood is 'Ayo'. The word 'Yo' stands for Yocahu, which is another word for 'creator' in Arawak/Taino and in the Papiamentu spoken today, 'Ayo' means 'bye'.

At Ayo, you can find some

of the most well known rock formations. These formations became a well loved and visited attraction at Aruba that is held in high regards by both tourists and locals alike.

If you'd like to know more about the rock formations at Ayo, stay tuned for our article where we tell you all about its location and history.

This neighborhood's abbreviation is; A.

Alto Vista

This word combination can be roughly translated to a 'high point of view' and the neighborhood received

this name from the Hill.

In the surrounding areas, Domingo Antonia Silvestre built his by his own means the very first chapel or church of Aruba. The walls of this church were made with rocks but the roof was made of dry corn stalks. The church was inaugurated by father Pablo Algemesi

If you'd like to know more about the Alto Vista Church's beautiful history, stay tuned for our article where we tell you all you need to know about it for when you visit it.

This neighborhood's abbreviation is; AV. □



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

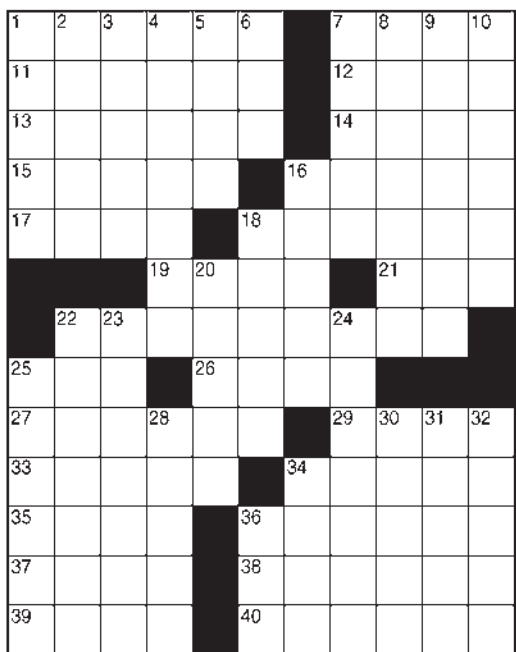
- 1 Moon feature
- 7 Super serves
- 11 Inspira-tional saying
- 12 Desert sight
- 13 Not worthless
- 14 Seedy joint
- 15 Gets up
- 16 Finishes last
- 17 Egg setting
- 18 Envelope type
- 19 Memo letters
- 21 Right away
- 22 Derby drink
- 25 May honoree
- 26 Clue weapon
- 27 Film set on Pandora
- 29 Diplomatic skill
- 33 Holdup
- 34 Small-scale
- 35 Fix copy
- 36 Regular customer
- 37 Met star

DOWN

- 38 Diesel invention
- 39 Till section
- 40 Battery ends
- 1 Make butter
- 2 Historic riveter
- 3 Run up
- 4 Like Sherpas
- 5 Pipe bends
- 6 Reuben base
- 7 Peripheral
- 8 Chef's specialty
- 9 Com-pletely enclose
- 10 Vacillate
- 16 Accept eagerly
- 18 College study
- 20 Wander off
- 22 Made oneself at home
- 23 Celine Dion song
- 24 "Frozen" song
- 25 Coped
- 28 Slangy farewells
- 30 Bitter
- 31 Hag
- 32 Musical sounds
- 34 "Death in Venice" author
- 36 Soup sphere



Yesterday's answer



5-18

AXYDLBAAXR
 is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

5-18

CRYPTOQUOTE

H O A R C Z A O O A M O U B V H K Z
 G C U O N M U O Y R V T L T V G R V T ;
 Y R V H S M U J R C K Z M K X
 N R L T X , M K X H O S M U G M J .

— LTVM WVH O O M H K

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: DO WHAT YOU CAN,
 WITH WHAT YOU'VE GOT, WHERE YOU ARE.
 — TEDDY ROOSEVELT

Cruise ship Schedule: August 6 - 27 2024

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	
TUE	06	ADVENTURE OF THE SEAS CARNIVAL HORIZON CARNIVAL MARDI GRAS	08.00 09.00 13.00	20.00 22.00 23.00	B C I	1 1 1
WED	07	RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	09.00	21.00	C	1
TUE	13	CELEBRITY BEYOND CARNIVAL CELEBRATION CARNIVAL VISTA	08.00 08.00 13.00	21.00 22.00 23.00	B C I	1 1 1
THU	14	ENCHANTED PRINCESS	08.00	18.00	C	1
WED	20	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	22.00	C	1
WED	27	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	C	1

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basicbut important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

lets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.

Electrical power



Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of out-

Drinking water



The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.

Supermarket hours



Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.

Safety



Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

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FDA approves first nasal spray to treat dangerous allergic reactions

By JONEL ALECCIA

AP Health Writer

U.S. health officials on Friday approved a nasal spray to treat severe allergic reactions, the first needle-free alternative to shots like EpiPen.

The Food and Drug Administration said it approved the spray from drugmaker ARS Pharmaceuticals Inc. as an emergency treatment for adults and older children experiencing life-threatening allergic reactions known as anaphylaxis.

Anaphylaxis occurs when the body's immune system develops a sudden, unexpected reaction to a foreign substance, such as food, insect stings or medications. Common symptoms include hives, swelling, itching, vomiting and difficulty breathing.

The device, marketed as Neffy, could upend treatment for the 33 million to 45 million Americans with severe allergies to food and other triggers. Anaphylaxis sends more than 30,000 people to emergency rooms and results in more than 2,000 hospitalizations and more than 230 deaths in the U.S. each year.

Of the 6 million prescriptions written for auto-injectors each year, more than 40% are never filled, Dr. Thomas Casale, an allergist at the University of



This image provided by ARS Pharmaceuticals on Friday, Aug. 9, 2024, shows the company's Neffy nasal spray to treat severe allergic reactions.

(ARS Pharmaceuticals via Associated Press)

South Florida, told an FDA advisory panel last year. Even when they are available to caregivers, many auto-injectors are used incorrectly, he said.

"There's a real unmet medical need for a large portion of the population," he said.

Neffy is intended for people who weigh at least 66 pounds. It is given in a single dose sprayed into one nostril. A second dose can be given if the person's symptoms don't improve. The new treatment could be life-changing for people

with severe food allergies, said Dr. Kelly Cleary, a pediatrician and director with the Food Allergy Research & Education, a nonprofit advocacy group. "I have seen the look of worry or fear," said Cleary, whose 11-year-old son has multiple food allergies. "I worry about what happens if someone hesitates."

Requiring an injection in an emergency is as scary to some children as the allergic reaction itself. Some parents have had to restrain thrashing children to inject them, sometimes causing cuts that require stitches. About 3,500 caregivers a year are injured when they accidentally inject themselves in the hands, ARS said.

Priscilla Hernandez, of Pasadena, California said her 12-year-old son, Zacky, who is allergic to sesame, peanuts, tree nuts, avocado and other foods, was

traumatized when he had a reaction at school about six years ago and a nurse treated him with an auto-injector. "Having to do a shot creates this whole different level of anxiety," she said. She said, "we are over the moon" about the FDA's approval of the spray, which Zacky will start carrying when it becomes available. □



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WK 7 and 14 - all views

GOLD SEASON

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2 Bed Garden view \$10,000
3 Bed Ocean view \$28,000

Marriott Aruba Ocean Club PLATINUM SEASON

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1 Bed Ocean front \$21,000
1 Bed Ocean View \$17,000
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Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002
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Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

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Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

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American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
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Are you a Cash App user? You may be eligible for a piece of this \$15 million settlement

By WYATTE GRANTHAM-PHILIPS

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Current and former Cash App users could be eligible for a hefty piece of a proposed class-action settlement from the popular online payment service.

Earlier this year, Cash App Investing and its parent company Block Inc. agreed to pay \$15 million to settle a lawsuit that alleged a “failure to exercise reasonable care” in protecting user information leading up to and after recent data breaches. The class-action complaint cited two incidents where access to some account data was compromised, saying this resulted in numerous unauthorized charges impacting Cash App customers.

Now, those consumers can submit a claim for a settlement payment which could include reimbursement of up to \$2,500 in out-of-pocket losses ahead of final approval. Here’s what you need to know.



Cash App logos are seen on a phone screen, Sept. 8, 2023, in New York.

Why was Cash App sued? Cash App and Block, which is based in Oakland, California, were sued over their response to security breaches in recent years and allegations that they failed to implement sufficient security measures to protect customers. The class-action pointed

to a 2021 incident, which the company disclosed in 2022, where a former employee downloaded reports of some U.S. users without permission. It also noted another breach disclosed in 2023, when an unauthorized user accessed some Cash App accounts using phone numbers that

were linked to them.

Cash App and Block have denied any wrongdoing. But to settle the litigation, they agreed to pay \$15 million.

Beyond attorneys fees and administration costs, that money will go to impacted customers who submit eligible claims.

Associated Press

Cash App and Block also agreed to take steps toward strengthening data security as part of the settlement. The company did not comment further when reached by The Associated Press Friday.

How can I get a settlement payment?

To get a payment, you’ll have to submit a claim on the official settlement administrator’s website. The current deadline to submit a claim is Nov. 18 with the settlement’s final approval hearing slated for Dec. 16. Those eligible include current or former Cash App customers who have been impacted by unauthorized access of their personal information or fraudulent withdrawals between Aug. 23, 2018 through Aug. 20 of this year.

You may have received a personalized notice informing you about eligibility for the settlement by mail or email but if not, there’s also an option to manually provide information about your situation online. □

World Federation of Advertisers discontinues small brand safety initiative after Elon Musk’s X sues

NEW YORK (AP) — A small brand safety initiative is ceasing operations days after being targeted by social media platform X in a lawsuit alleging the group helped coordinate a “massive advertiser boycott” after billionaire Elon Musk bought the company in 2022.

The World Federation of Advertisers has confirmed that it’s discontinuing its Global Alliance for Responsible Media initiative. In a Friday statement, the advertising group said that recent allegations “unfortunately misconstrue (GARM’s) purpose and activities” adding that this “caused a distraction and significantly drained its resources and finances.”

X, formerly Twitter, sued the World Federation of Advertisers and member companies Unilever, Mars, CVS Health and Orsted on

Tuesday. The lawsuit, filed in federal court in Texas, took particular aim at GARM’s alleged role that X says contributed to an advertising pause after Musk acquired the company for \$44 billion in October 2022. X alleged that advertisers conspired with and through GARM “to collectively with-

hold billions of dollars in advertising revenue” from the company. The suit also alleges that the defendants violated antitrust laws in the process, citing recent findings from the Republican-led U.S. House Judiciary Committee.

“No small group should be able to monopolize what

gets monetized,” X Ceo Linda Yaccarino wrote on the platform Thursday, in response to a post from the Judiciary Committee GOP that celebrated the news of GARM discontinuing operations.

She called the move a “necessary step in the right direction.”

GARM’s end may mark a victory for X right now, but the company could still face a lengthy battle in court with the group of advertisers it’s sued. And whether any of GARM’s digital safety work will continue through the larger World Federation of Advertisers organization was not immediately clear.

GARM was founded in 2019. The initiative was employed by a small team of two, a spokesperson for the World Federation of Advertisers confirmed to The As-

sociated Press.

Since its launch, the group noted in its Friday announcement, GARM worked to enhance transparency in social media ad placements by providing voluntary tools “to help advertisers avoid inadvertently supporting harmful and illegal content.” This helped reduce such ads from 6.1% in 2020 to 1.7% in 2023, the World Federation of Advertisers said.

This week’s lawsuit from X center on the early days of Musk’s takeover of the platform formerly known as Twitter, and not a more recent dispute with advertisers that came a year later. In November 2023, a number of advertisers began fleeing X over concerns about their ads showing up next to pro-Nazi content and hate speech on the site overall. □



The opening page of X is displayed on a computer and phone, Oct. 16, 2023, in Sydney.

Associated Press

Twins shelve Joe Ryan indefinitely with shoulder strain, as rotation takes hit for stretch run

By **DAVE CAMPBELL**
AP Sports Writer

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The Minnesota Twins placed starting pitcher Joe Ryan on the 15-day injured list on Friday with a significantly strained muscle in his throwing shoulder, an ill-timed setback entering a critical homestand against two division rivals and primary competitors for postseason spots.

Ryan has a Grade 2 strain of the teres major, a thick, flat muscle that runs from the shoulder blade to the upper arm, the Twins announced before beginning a four-game series against the AL Central-leading Cleveland Guardians. Manager Rocco Baldelli said Ryan would be sidelined for “weeks to months” but stopped short of declaring him done for the season.

The right-hander, who is 7-7 with a 3.60 ERA, 23 walks and 147 strikeouts in 135 innings over 23 starts, was removed from his most recent turn on Wednesday when he felt discomfort after throwing a pitch in the third inning.

“Yeah, it is a punch in the gut,” Baldelli said. “It’s going to need time to heal up, and he’ll do everything he can to get himself right and get back, but this is going to be a little while.”



Minnesota Twins starting pitcher Joe Ryan, right, reacts as he leaves with a team trainer after an injury during the third inning of a baseball game against the Chicago Cubs in Chicago, Wednesday, Aug. 7, 2024.

Associated Press

Ryan will seek a second opinion before the Twins reveal a timetable for his recovery, but with a little more than seven weeks in the regular season the window is tight.

Starting pitcher Chris Paddack has been out for three weeks with a strained forearm, and his return is “not right around the corner,” Baldelli said, though president of baseball operations Derek Falvey added later that the right-hander was close to beginning a throwing program with the

goal of returning for more regular season action.

The Twins, who ultimately passed on the high prices for starting pitching before the trade deadline last month, now have two rookies in their rotation indefinitely with David Festa and Simeon Woods Richardson trying to do their part behind Pablo López and Bailey Ober.

“When you get to a deadline and things don’t work out the way you want, you know you’re going to have to lean on your inter-

nal guys,” Falvey said. “We believe a lot of our internal group is capable of stepping into these roles and can play a role for us down the stretch.”

Louie Varland was recalled from Triple-A St. Paul to start the second game of the doubleheader on Friday against the Guardians, who took a 3½-game lead on the Twins in the division race into the series.

“You’re never going to be like, ‘We’re going to make a trade because someone is going to go down,’ or,

‘We’re not going to make a trade because everyone is going to stay healthy,’” López said. “Obviously, hindsight is easier than foresight. It definitely makes it a little tougher. Teams that get people at the deadline and go through this, they’re able to hold off a little longer.”

The Twins also placed rookie infielder Brooks Lee on the 10-day injured list with right biceps tendinitis. Infielder Kyle Farmer, who has missed 18 games with a strained right shoulder, was activated early from his rehab assignment to replace Lee.

Reliever Scott Blewett was promoted from Triple-A St. Paul, and reliever Brock Stewart was transferred to the 60-day injured list after the diagnosis that he needs arthroscopic shoulder surgery that will end his injury-ruined season.

The Twins got center fielder Byron Buxton back in the lineup on Friday from a three-game absence due to a back injury stemming from a catch he made while colliding with the wall. But All-Star shortstop Carlos Correa, whose absence because of plantar fasciitis in his right foot is approaching one month, remained sidelined with no rehab assignment yet on the schedule. □

NWSL and players’ union reach new collective bargaining agreement as league’s profile rises



Washington Spirit’s Andi Sullivan, center, lifts the trophy as they celebrate after defeating the Chicago Red Stars in the NWSL Championship soccer match, Saturday, Nov. 20, 2021, in Louisville, Ky.

Associated Press

By The Associated Press

The National Women’s Soccer League and its players’ union have agreed to a collective bargaining agreement that will run through 2030, according to two published reports.

Sportico and The Athletic, citing anonymous sources, reported some provisions of the new agreement will go into effect before the current CBA expires after the 2026 season.

The current agreement was negotiated in 2022 and increased minimum salaries, introduced free agency,

provided housing and transportation for players and addressed health and safety.

No details for the new CBA were available, but they generally concern player movement, free agency and trades.

The players’ union has not commented but posted a message on social media that said, “Any news concerning the Players’ lives will be shared directly by them, on their terms. Respect that. Stay tuned.”

The new agreement comes as the NWSL has begun

signing more international players the past year and announced a four-year media rights deal valued at \$60 million per year. Prices for franchises also have escalated this year. The San Diego Wave sold for a then-NWSL record \$120 million in March, and last month Angel City FC became the most valuable women’s sports team in the world when it sold for \$250 million.

More than 50 NWSL players are competing at the Paris Olympics. □

Sha'Carri Richardson rallies U.S. women in Olympic 4x100 while men shut out again

By EDDIE PELLIS

AP National Writer

SAINT-DENIS, France (AP)

— Sha'Carri Richardson made her first Olympic gold-medal moment memorable — giving the sprinters behind her the side-eye, then stomping her foot to the track on her final step across the finish line.

Afterward, she moved aside to watch the U.S. men do what they do best in the 4x100 relay — find a way to lose.

Richardson, who won silver in the 100 last weekend, powered from third to first in the anchor leg to lift the United States to victory Friday, then had a front-row seat to watch the U.S. men extend their streak to 20 years without a medal at the Games.

"I was very comfortable with these ladies," Richardson said of a foursome that includes her training partners, 100-meter bronze medalist Melissa Jefferson and Twanisha Terry, and 200-meter champion Gabby Thomas.

The men were racing without Noah Lyles, who called it quits for the Olympics after winning the bronze medal in the 200 while fighting COVID. Hard to think that even he could've saved them.

This race unraveled on the first exchange, when Christian Coleman crashed into Kenny Bednarek, then actually ran by him as they were awkwardly passing the baton.

By the time Fred Kerley took the stick for the anchor lap, the U.S. was in seventh place. They ended up being disqualified for the illegal pass. Not even Lyles could've overcome that.

"It just didn't happen," Coleman said. "Maybe we could have put in some more work. I just think in the moment it didn't happen."

U.S. loss opens it up for Canada and De Grasse to get a win. With the U.S. out, Andre De Grasse put a bright mark on his otherwise disappointing Olympics by anchoring Canada to gold in a time of 37.50 seconds. It was the first medal in



Christian Coleman, left, of the United States, struggles to hand the baton to teammate Kenneth Bednarek, in the men's 4x100-meter relay final at the 2024 Summer Olympics, Friday, Aug. 9, 2024, in Saint-Denis, France.

Associated Press

Paris for De Grasse, and the first for the Canadians in the one-lap relay since Donovan Bailey anchored them in 1996. South Africa finished second and Britain third.

The secret?

"We've been together since 2021, or 2019, even," De Grasse said. "We all train in Florida. We always practice for this moment. We know what we're capable of."

America's Rai Benjamin pulls off hurdles victory

In the evening's final race, American Rai Benjamin finally pulled out of the shadow of world-record holder Karsten Warholm, getting his first individual major title by blowing past the defending champion in 46.46 seconds.

Alison dos Santos of Brazil finished third for the second straight Olympics, giving these Games the same three men on the podium as Tokyo.

This race was no repeat of that one — the fastest hurdles race ever — but Benjamin still ran a time that would've been a world record 37 months ago, before Warholm took it below 46 seconds.

Carl Lewis sounds off (again) after (another) re-

lay debacle

Looking in on the relays in disgust, but not surprise, was Carl Lewis, a two-time winner in this race who is never shy about calling out what he sees.

"It is time to blow up the system," he said on social media. "This continues to be completely unacceptable. It is clear that EVERYONE at USA (Track and Field) is more concerned with relationships (than) winning. No athlete should step on the track and run another relay until this program is changed from top to bottom."

In an interview last week with The Associated Press, Lewis suggested experts in the U.S. develop a relay manual and send it to every high school coach in the country.

"The issue has always been politics, has always been drama, has always been deception," Lewis said. "If they can eliminate those things, there's no question they have the fastest team in the world."

Did late removal of Noah Lyles make a difference?

Some might blame the latest loss on the impact of the lineup shuffle. Lyles, who ran anchor in the U.S. victory last year at world

championships, probably would have done so again at Stade de France.

But that task went to Kerley, and Bednarek ran second. It set him up to receive the pass from Coleman.

Most of the problems over the years — and all this week — have been toward the front. On Thursday, in qualifying, Coleman handed to Kerley with his right hand while grabbing Kerley's arm with his left — an awkward exchange that didn't cost anything.

This one did. The only U.S. podium finish during its dry spell was a silver in 2012 that was later stripped due to doping.

"At the end of the day, we knew what we could do," said Kyree King, who ran the third leg. "We came out here and we had the mindset of no risk, no reward, so we went out there and went big. It didn't happen." Sha'Carri and company had no such problems.

The run by Richardson and her teammates was everything the men's race was not — filled with smooth safe passes of a rain-slickened baton, then capped off by America's fastest 100-meter runner.

Richardson received the baton from Thomas in third

place.

By the halfway point of her leg, Richardson had overcome runners from Britain and Germany. She glanced to her right — and backwards — and gave a look of "you're not catching me," then took eight more steps.

On the ninth one, Richardson slammed her left foot on the ground over the finish line and let out a yell.

The Americans won in 41.78 seconds, good for a .07-second win over Britain, which struggled with two baton changes in the rain.

The bad pass between Thomas and Terry in qualifying that could've ruined the Olympics was nothing but a distant memory. And Richardson, a few days later than some expected, is an Olympic champion.

"I just remember trusting Gabby and knowing that she's going to put this thing in my hand no matter what," Richardson said, "and to leave my best on the track."

Raven Saunders in shot put and a threepeat in heptathlon

Nafissatou Thiam (Belgium) squeaked past Katarina Johnson-Thompson (Britain) by 44 points to win her unprecedented third straight Olympic heptathlon title.

The 29-year-old joins Polish hammer thrower Anita Włodarczyk as the second woman to win three Olympic titles in the same event. Yemisi Ogunleye of Germany won the women's shot put while American Raven Saunders, the silver medalist in Tokyo, finished 11th.

Marileidy Paulino won the 400 meters in an Olympic record 48.17 seconds to become the first woman to win Olympic gold for the Dominican Republic.

Kenya's Beatrice Chebet completed the 5,000-10,000 double with a victory in the longer race in 30 minutes, 43.25 seconds.

And Sifan Hassan added bronze in the 10,000 to the one she captured in the 5,000 and was facing a 36-hour turnaround before running the marathon Sunday. □